News / A2
Abalos rushed to hospital for bleeding ulcers

World / A8
Rumsfeld apologizes, takes responsibility but will not resign

ELECTION 2004
Inquirer/GMA-7: Full election coverage is in the details

News / A20
A complete listing of party-list groups

Magazine
Willie Nep for Prez

Mothers' Day: This lady is supermom to 26 children

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Coffee has arrived, but where's the voters' list!

Undecided to decide



Pollsters say 24% of voters will determine election results

'It's true I know nothing ... about stealing, cheating'

Guingona told: Be ready to take over, just in case



SMC decision boosts Gloria; persecution, howls Erap

Nation agog as Pacquiao goes for glory today

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

Guardians: JDV behind sample ballots

By Marlon Ramos
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

CALAMBA CITY—The Philippine Guardians Brotherhood Inc. (PGBI) yesterday accused Speaker Jose de Venecia of being the brains behind the printing of sample ballots junking opposition presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. in favor of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

[illegible]

Misinformation

[illegible]

Above partisan politics

[illegible]

'Deliberate sabotage'

[illegible]

Admission

[illegible]



SPEAKER Jose de Venecia in a huddle with Sen. Gregorio Honasan, national chair and president of Philippine Guardians Brotherhood, during signing of agreement for good governance, call for free, honest, transparent and non-violent elections in the May 10 political exercise. The event was held at Club Filipino in San Juan, Metro Manila.

Bleeding Abalos rushed to hospital

By Martin Marfil

COMMISSION on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos was rushed last night to the Manila Doctors Hospital shortly after passing out while at the Comelec office.

[illegible]

As ratings dip, Noli decries 'black prop'

[illegible]

Sy buys Yuchengco stake in Chinabank

By Doris C. Dumlao

WHILE HIS takeover bid of Equitable PCI Bank still hangs, retail magnate Henry Sy has acquired majority control of China Banking Corp. with the purchase of the 12.68 percent stake of the Yuchengco Group of Companies (YGC) for about P2.5 billion.

The acquisition would raise the stake of the Sy family in Chinabank from 41 percent to 53.68 percent. Prior to the purchase, Sy was already the single biggest stockholder of the bank.

In a statement, YGC yesterday said it had recently entered into a memorandum of agreement to sell its stake in Chinabank to Sy's SM Investments Corp.

INQUIRER sources said the bloc was priced at a little over P2.5 billion or roughly P650 per share, based on Chinabank's current market capitalization of P20-P25 billion. Shares of China Bank closed at P685 on Friday.

Sources said the MOA was signed yesterday morning at the Peninsula Hotel Manila, with Banco de Oro Universal Bank chair Teresita Sy-Coson representing the Sy family and Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. chair Rizalino Navarro and Yvonne Yuchengco representing YGC. The financial closing is expected to take place next week.

"The Yuchengcos have been shareholders in CBC for almost 30 years. YGC, however, considers the move a step further in consolidating its investments in one of its flagship companies, RCBC and its subsidiaries and affiliates," the YGC statement said.

Gabriel Singson's role

Banking sources said former Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Gabriel Singson was instrumental in closing the deal.

Sources said Singson, a close friend of both taipans Henry Sy and Alfonso Yuchengco, had advised the latter to sell his 12.68 percent stake in Chinabank and focus instead on strengthening RCBC.

The deal is widely expected to result in a merger with BDO in the future, but the SM group was quick to assure that this would not result in any change in management control of Chinabank within the next two years.

"There is no need to change management. They are doing very well," said a banking source who was privy to the deal.

The Dee family, which founded Chinabank in 1920, has continued to manage the bank even when it had less than a 10 percent stake in the bank over the last few years.

Chinabank, which boasts of one of the highest returns on equity ratios, is the 12th biggest bank in the country with assets worth of P106.6 billion as of the first quarter of this year. In 2003, Chinabank chalked up a record net income of P2.63 billion.

BDO, on the other hand, is ranked 8th, with total assets of P151.5 billion.

"It makes sense to solidify the holdings. It's now just a question of when is the right time to merge. When that opportunity comes, it will be easy to do because the shareholding control is clear," said a source from the SM group.

The merger will happen, the source said, when the two banks' business cultures become more suitable for integration.

The SM source also said the group was still working on its purchase of a controlling stake in Equitable PCI Bank, the country's third biggest lender, but it was premature to talk of any merger soon.

The deal to buy the 29 percent stake of the Social Security System in Equitable PCI is still awaiting clearance from the Department of Justice. Sen. Serge Osmeña III had questioned the transaction for lack of public bidding.

If a three-way merger between Chinabank, Equitable PCI and BDO happens in the future, the SM group would end up with the biggest banking conglomerate in the country.

Yorac to quit at the height of her success

By Dona Pazzibugan

JUST WHEN the Presidential Commission on Good Government was riding high on the wave of its major court victories, its Chair Haydee Yorac is seriously considering quitting her post.

Yorac is thinking of returning to private practice purely for financial reasons.

She said private practice pays much better than working for the government.

"I'm serious (about leaving PCGG) no matter who wins the elections," Yorac said in a recent interview.

"It's just me. It's what I need. It's not possible that I would always sacrifice (my personal needs)," she said.

It was during Yorac's term that the PCGG made significant inroads in its 17-year battle to recover the ill-gotten wealth of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos and his cronies.

Appointed PCGG chair two years ago, Yorac set her sights on recovering the $683 million secret Swiss deposits of Marcos and former first lady Imelda Marcos, and the coco levy assets from Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco.

After getting a final ruling from the Supreme Court, the PCGG last February turned over to the national treasury the $683 million (roughly P38 billion) in ill-gotten Swiss deposits of the Marcoses.

The PCGG also scored in the Sandiganbayan, which upheld the government's majority ownership of the United Coconut Planters Bank and on Friday, the 27 percent bloc of coconut farmers in San Miguel Corp.

The anti-graft court ruled that these assets were bought with the coco levy imposed on hundreds of thousands of small coconut farmers during martial law.

The funds were administered by Cojuangco whose 20 percent SMC shares were also claimed by the government for allegedly being part of the coco levy assets.

Yorac came close to death last year after suffering a stroke and a bout with cancer and other complications. She a only returned to work after a lengthy stay in hospital and extended therapy.

She said it was fortunate that she had enough savings since she spent for her own medical expenses.

If she would leave PCGG, Yorac said she would recommend her replacement. *With AFP*

Poe to pull off movie ending, says Sotto

On eve of elections, Gloria won't gloat



ARTISTS' STATEMENT

'Nothing wrong with being pals with Marcoses'

Candidate cuts off pinkie to make a point

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

'It's true I know nothing …

Administration 'crazy'

Black propaganda

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Bets 'imprison' Mangyans to be assured of their votes

By [illegible]
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Safer than in mountains

Return for favors granted













Don't bring too many appliances, tutors told

By Abigail L. Ho

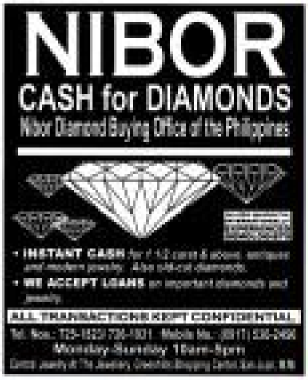
Trip-offs



Probe sought of Erap ads

By Armand Nocum







The WORLD

Rumsfeld takes responsibility for abuses, but will not resign

WASHINGTON—US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, ...



RUMSFELD rubs his eyes during Senate hearing.

Teen suspected of creating 'Sasser' nabbed

BERLIN—German authorities have arrested an 18-year-old man suspected of creating the "Sasser" computer virus, ... AP

Suicide bombing of Karachi mosque kills 14, injures 90

KARACHI—... AFP

METRO

'Bong' votes are mine, says Revilla

By Tarra Quismundo

Disqualifications and rumors fly high on elections eve

Lakas campaign man shot dead



ONE FINAL BLAST
Supporters of various candidates in the local elections in Manila go all out with their campaign, turning posters into buntings, as the campaign period draws to a close today.

Incident puts Malabon under Comelec control

By Tina Santos

METROBRIEFS

Suspects released

Abducted tot

Liban still in running

Inay Pô: Mother, community leader and Ulirang Ina



Toilets await voters in Payatas



Taguig gets cityhood in recount

Confusion mars distribution of poll materials

Across the NATION

Bets clog city traffic on last campaign day

JI hand starting to be visible in bank accounts

10 more killed as polls heat up in Luzon, Visayas

Misamis officials assail trumped up raps vs mayor

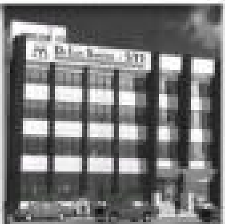
Marinduque police force says NPAs biggest threat to polls

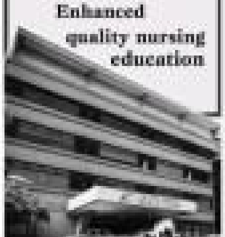


Jaworski: Gov't should offer hope to stop rebs

5 NPA rebs slain in encounter

NPAs assure safety of bets with PTCs





Sunday **SPORTS**

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

Groundswell of support for Pacquiao



PACQUIAO: Secret weapon

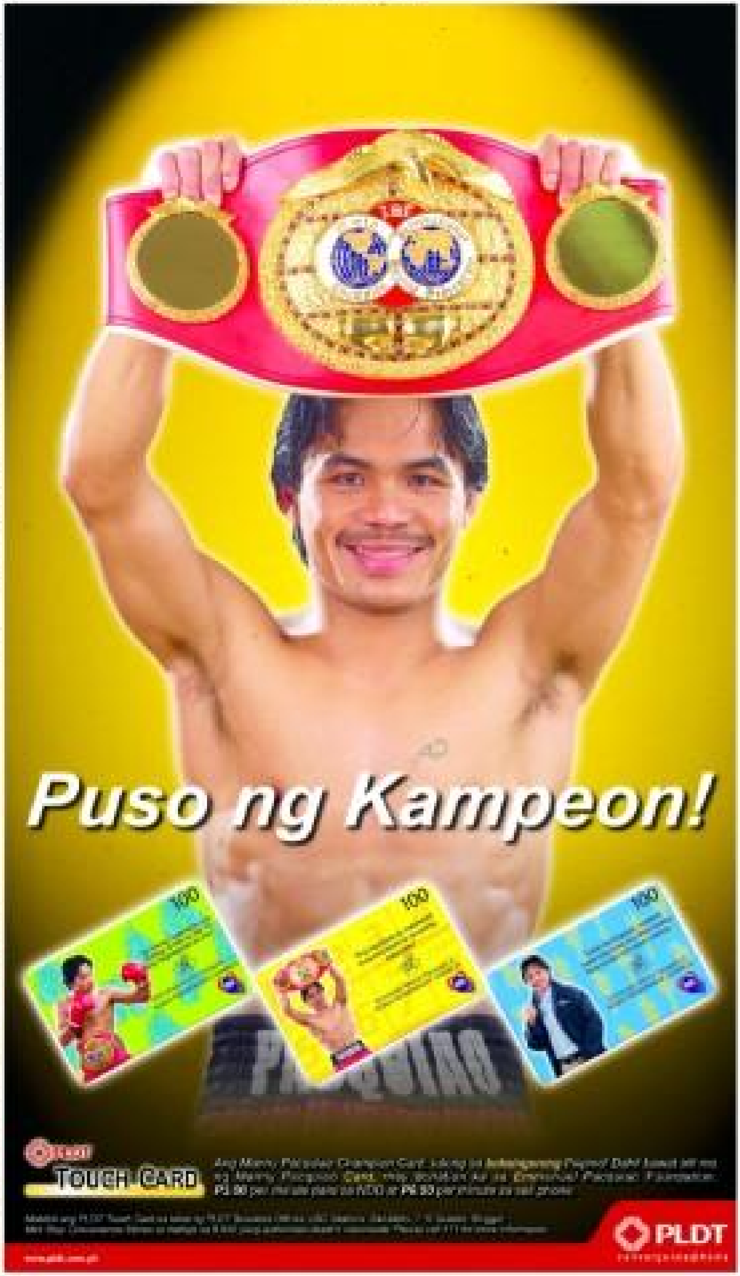


MARQUEZ: Filipino in a sabla

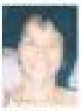
LAS VEGAS, Nevada—Mexican fight fans, expected to pour into the fight site from both sides of the border, will predictably overwhelm the many Filipino backers of Manny Pacquiao.

- Manny's mom's prayer /A26
- Spectator: 'Pac' by KO /A26

Barakos end losing spell, tame Tigers



Manny's mom prays for Mother's Day gift



DIONESIA Pacquiao



Titular fight on RPN-9, Solar-29

Pacquiao by knockout

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza



Barakos ...

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION



90 days

EDITORIAL

THE CAMPAIGN period which ended yesterday was nasty, brutish—and long. For 90 days the country essentially put everything on hold. ...

Elections tomorrow

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

When will we ever learn?

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

The more interesting contest

REVELLE



Ramon J. Farolan

Postscript on Bocelli

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Can I trust this person?

PUBLIC LIVES



Randy David

'Money Politics' vs Democracy

PASSION FOR REASON



Raul C. Pangalangan

THEY SAID

Right people

Ibaloi voice

TALK of the TOWN

Editor: Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Judgment Day: Who will get our vote?

THE 90-DAY campaign period for national elective posts and the 45-day campaign period for local elective posts ended yesterday. And yet, on the eve of the elections, many have yet to choose the candidates they will vote for. Between 12 percent and 16 percent of the voters had no choices as of last week the candidates for president, vice president and senator, according to results of nationwide surveys.

Some of those who had signified their intention to vote for a particular presidential or vice presidential candidate may yet change their mind.

Voters will also pass judgment on those running for congressman, party-list representative, governor, vice governor, mayor, vice mayor, provincial board member and councilor. In all 17,000 elective posts are at stake.

Over the past three months, "Talk of the Town" presented the stand of the presidential, vice presidential and senatorial candidates on a number of issues. It also printed the critique by individuals and groups of the platform of government of each presidential candidate.

It's now up to us to choose the candidates we believe will bring about meaningful changes in the country and make a difference in our lives.

Presidential Candidates



GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
Lakas-CMD-K4



PANFILO MORENA LACSON



RONALD ALLAN POE/FERNANDO POE JR.
Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino



RAUL SAGARBARRIA ROCO
Aksyon Demokratiko
Alyansa ng Pag-Asa



EDUARDO CRUZ VILLANUEVA
Bangon Pilipinas

Vice Presidential Candidates



HERMINIO SANCHEZ AQUINO
Aksyon Demokratiko-Alyansang Pag-Asa



MANUEL DE CASTRO
Independent-K4



LOREN BAUTISTA LEGARDA
Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino

INQUIRER Mindanao

Making Mindanao people heard thru the vote

DUGONG MINDANAW

Opportunity wasted

Structure

Peace

Bishops burn symbols of elections' 3 'Gs'



A PURPLE DAY

Comelec shuffle alarms candidates

Gov, 3 others face graft for 'commission'

SMC decision boosts Gloria; persecution, howls Erap

28 percent, too

Ruling's release delayed

No reaction

Lakas-NPC coalition holds

Victory for farmers, GMA

Duped by Erap

Dividend earnings



LOBREGAT



ENRILE



COJUANGCO

How coco funds found their way into private hands

Two levies

Coco bank

Holding companies

Sequestered

Sandigan ruling

Nation agog as Pacquiao goes for glory today

Headbutts, elbows

Automatic 1 pt. deduction

Record

Big favorite

Coffee has arrived . . .

From page A1

was the voters' list?

As of yesterday, the computerized voters' list (CVL)—which is supposed to guide voters on which precinct to go—had not been posted in many polling places. This is an indication of the possible chaos which awaits Filipinos tomorrow when they go to the polls to vote.

There are exceptions to the usual anarchy.

In Pasig City Elementary School, the CVL had been posted as early as May 1.

"We're all set. We're ready for the elections tomorrow," declared Principal Bernarda Lorica as she toured the classrooms yesterday.

The school expects to receive the ballot boxes any time today and the ballots at midnight.

At the Andres Bonifacio Integrated School in Mandaluyong City, the voters' list was posted as early as Thursday.

Other voting materials would be picked up at the city hall today according to Sr. Imelda Velis, school principal.

Comelec officer Ma. Asian Lemonia said her office would also be distributing voting materials today.

At 3 p.m. yesterday, a group of teachers at the San Juan Elementary School in San Juan, were seen collecting the voters' list from the principal's office. Another group was busy covering tables with Manila Paper and preparing the polling precincts.

None yet

At the Pinaglabanan Elementary School in San Juan, there was no CVL, the classrooms were closed and there was no teacher in sight, when the Inquirer checked yesterday morning.

A guard said the teachers were coming in today to prepare the classrooms which will be converted into polling precincts.

At the Xavier School, also in San Juan, janitors were busy fixing the chairs and preparing the classrooms. But the voters' list had not been posted.

At the Juan Sumulong Elementary School in Barangay San Roque, Antipolo City, a janitor said voters came to check their precincts, only to find out that the CVL had not been posted.

Check with local Comelec office

A teacher from the University of Rizal System, also in Antipolo, and a Board of Election Inspector (BEI) were overheard discussing where the classrooms would be cleaned.

Election assistant officer Josephine Gallo said her Antipolo office is distributing a voter's information sheet, which details the names of all candidates and the positions they are running.

A Comelec official said that if the CVL has not been posted or if voters can't find their names in the list, they should check with their local Comelec office. *With reports from Jamie Alfonso, Michael Albert Banaffo, Jessica Ardes and Charlie Bardesillas*

The party-list list

By PDI Research

FILIPINOS will vote for the third time for party-list groups tomorrow, but most voters are not aware of the party-list vote.

According to Pulse Asia's pre-election nationwide survey in April, only 36 percent of Filipinos are aware of the party-list system, and almost 64 percent were not aware of it.

The party-list system is a political innovation introduced by the framers of the 1987 Constitution to enable small political parties and marginalized sectors to be represented in the House of Representatives, which is traditionally dominated by parties with big political machinery.

A party-list group needs at least 2 percent of the total votes cast in the party-list election to get a seat in the House.

In the first party-list election in May 1998, 27 seats were at stake. But only 13 out of the 123 groups that took part in the political exercise were able to meet the 2-percent minimum.

Party-list representatives now total 20, representing 13 organizations in the last Congress.

Tomorrow, 67 party-list groups are vying for 50 seats.

Among them are the newcomers Bayan Muna, which currently has three seats, and its allies—Anakpawis, Migrante, Anak ng Bayan, Suara Bangsamoro Party (Suara) and Gabriela Women's Party.

Also up for reelection are the Buhay Hayaang Yumabong (Buhay) and Citizens' Battle against Corruption (Cibac), each of which has two seats.

Buhay, reportedly linked to El Shaddai's Mike Velarde's El Shaddai movement, was represented by his son, Rene Velarde, in the 12th Congress. Another seat is a religious leader, Emmanuel Joel Villanueva, head of Jesus is Lord's two seats.

Emmanuel Villanueva, a son of Jesus is Lord leader and presidential candidate Eddie Villanueva, won the right to represent his group after months of legal wrangling. The Commission on Elections had disqualified Cibac on the basis of its religious affiliation.

The other party-list organizations are Butil, Akbayan, Aba, Alliance Pinoy, Amin, Apec, Coconut, Partido ng Manggagawa and Sanlakas.

Also in the running are the People's Movement against Poverty (PMAP), which is associated with ousted President Joseph Estrada, and Bigkis Pinoy, which ran in the last elections but failed to get a seat.

Bigkis Pinoy is believed to be a front organization of President Macapagal-Arroyo's husband and his friends, according to Cibac Rep. Noe Bernard-Lobo.

The other party-list groups reported to be affiliated with an umbrella organization supporting Ms Macapagal is the Pinoy Overseas Party.

The following is the complete list of party-list candidates:

I. SECTORAL PARTY

Indigenous cultural communities

1. Assalam Bangsamoro People's Party (Assalam)
2. Ang Laban ng Indiginong Filipino (Alif)
3. Partido Katutubong Pilipino (Katutubo)
4. Suara Bangsamoro (Suara)

Elderly

1. Aging Pilipino Organization Inc. (Aging Pinoy)
2. Senior Citizens/Elderly (Elderly)

Fisherfolk

Bigkis ng Kilusan ng Kooperatiba (Bikkoop)

Handicapped

Alyansa ng mga Kapansanang Pinoy (Akap)

Labor

1. Partido ng Manggagawa (PM)
2. Trade Union Congress Party (TUCP)

Overseas workers

1. Organisasyon ng Manggagawang Mag-aaral sa Republika (Ommar)
2. Islay ng Manggagawang Filipino Party (Islay OFW)
3. Marino Party (Marino)
4. Migrante Sectoral Party of Overseas Filipinos and their Families (Migrante)
5. Pinoy Overseas Party (POP)
6. Shipper Association of the Philippines (Sap)

Peasants

1. Butil Farmers Party (Butil)
2. National Federation of Small Coconut Farmers Organization, Inc. (SCFO)
3. Novelty Entrepreneurship and Livelihood for Food Inc. (Nelff)
4. Philippine Coconut Producers Federation Inc. (Cocofed)
5. Visayas Farmers Party (Agrifil)

Professionals

Alliance of Volunteer Educators (Ave)

Urban poor

1. Alagad (Alagad)
2. Ay Ikaing Lindosan sa Marangal na Pamumuhay (Bulbulit)
3. People's Movement against Poverty (PMAP)

Veterans

Veterans Freedom Party (VFP)

Women

1. Abanse! Pinay
2. Gabriela Women's Party (Gabriela)

Youth

Ang Nagkakaisang Kabataan para sa Sambayanan (Anak ng Bayan)

II. POLITICAL PARTY

1. Akbayan! Citizens Action Party (Akbayan)
2. Alyansa Nambayanan (Alga)
3. Alliance for Nationalism and Democracy (Anad)
4. Anakpawis (AP)
5. Bayan Muna (Bayan Muna)
6. Bigkis Pinoy Movement (Bigkis)
7. Buhay Hayaang Yumabong (Buhay)
8. Partido Isang Bansa, Isang Diwa (Isang Bansa, Isang Diwa)
9. Lakas ng Manggagawa (LM)

III. ORGANIZATION/COALITION

1. Alyansang Bayanihan ng mga Magsasaka, Manggagawang Bukid at Mangingisda and Adhikain at Kilusan ng Ordinaryong Tao (Coalition (Aba-Ako)
2. Association and Advocates of Social Justice for School Teachers and Allied Workers (AASJS)
3. Farmers and Fisherfolk Association of the Philippines Inc. (FFAP)
4. Abantayan (Abantayan)
5. Anak Mindanao (AM)
6. Alyansa ng Sambayanan para sa Pagbabago (Asap)
7. Association of Philippine Electric Cooperatives (Apec)
8. An Waray (An Waray)
9. Anak Mindanao (Amin)
10. Bagong Bao Movement (BBM)
11. Barangay Association for National Advancement and Transparency (Bant)
12. Citizens' Battle Against Corruption (Cibac)
13. Cooperative Natcco Network Party (Coop-Natcco)
14. Confederation of Grains Retailers Association of the Philippines (Grecon)
15. Mindanao Federation of Small Coconut Farmers Organization Inc. (MSCFO)
16. Philippine Association of Retired Persons (Parp)
17. Philippine Confederation of Drivers Organization and Alliance of Concerned Transport Operators (PCDO-Acto)
18. Philippine Guardians Brotherhood Inc. (PGBI)
19. The True Marcos Loyalist (for God, Country and People) (Marcos Loyalist)
20. Sagip Kapwa Foundation Inc. (Sagip Kapwa)
21. Samahan ng mga Manggagawa para sa Kaunlaran ng Lokal na Ekonomiya (SMKLE)
22. Sanlakas (Sanlakas)
23. Women's Party Inc. (WPI)

Mothers' Day: This lady …



From San Diego to Bacolod

Children started coming

'Temporarily permanent'

Born from the heart

TLC, food, and God

Saving lives

Undecided to decide

Unusual but good sign

Cheating at the polls

Initial impulse

Senate: 6-6 deadlock

Final push

Guingona told: Be ready to take over, just in case

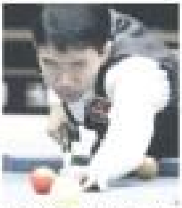
Soldiers' duty

Cause for alarm

No time for probe

Irregularities

Bata, Kiamco forge semis duel



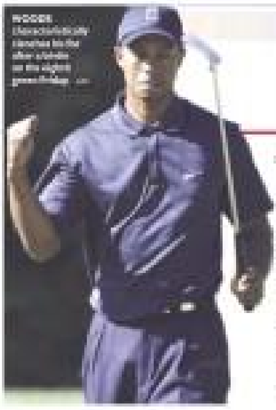
Jewels dazzle, Eagles soar in PBL Unity Cup



Pacquiao by KO

Boycott urged for age group chess tourney

Sunday SPORTS



Tiger takes command

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina—Instead of worrying about one continuing one streak, Tiger Woods goes to work on another one.



Pistons rip Nets, gain 2-0 spread

DETROIT, Michigan—

Lakers: Stop Parker

LOS ANGELES—

Hurting Clijsters to give French Open a miss

BRUSSELS, Belgium—

Sunday Biz

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

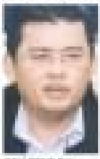
FOR PRESIDENT

Business folk talk about their votes

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

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Jose A. Concepcion III, president and CEO, RFM Corp.



CONCEPCION

[illegible]

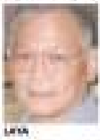
Jose L. Cuisia, president, Philamlife



CUISIA

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Jaime C. Laya, chair-emeritus, KPMG Laya, Mananghaya



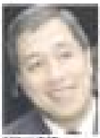
LAYA

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Danny Antonio, Phoenix Land Inc.

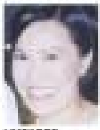
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Joey Bermudez, president, Chinatrust Phils. Inc.



BERMUDEZ

[illegible]



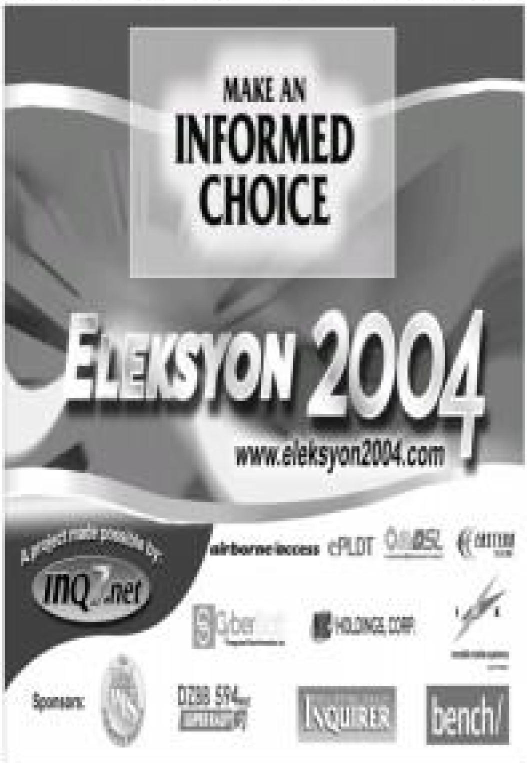
LIMCAOCO

Malou Limcaoco, owner, The Little Gym

[illegible]



Bank's goal to become profitable carries a twist




PVB chair Col. Emmanuel V. de Ocampo


PVB president and CEO Ricardo Balbido

Veterans' needs

Challenges

A brief history

New directions


PVB'S ANNUAL stockholders meeting

Presidential candidates' first jobs

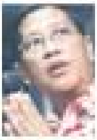
SOME 40 million Filipinos will vote tomorrow. Instead of the usual First Job feature of an executive, SundayBiz decided to take a look at the first occupation of the presidential candidates. Whether this will affect a voter's decision or not is up to them.

By [illegible]
PDI Research



President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

[illegible]



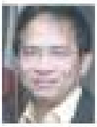
Raul Roco

[illegible]



Panfilo Lacson

[illegible]



Bro. Eddie Villanueva

[illegible]



Fernando Poe Jr.

[illegible]

Helping turn dreams into reality via IT

By [illegible]
Contributor

[illegible]

Taking on the Makatarungan challenge

[illegible]

40-year-old leather retailer goes into direct selling







Helping turn dreams into reality via IT

ICT benefits





Taking the (nautical) road less traveled

Business folk talk...

Listing the elements of a world-class factory



A WORLD-CLASS factory is lean in the sense that it uses much less resources than its conventional counterpart in producing widgets of the same quality and quantity.

Star No. 2: Fast

Star No. 3: Lean

Star No. 4: Flexible

Star No. 5: Environment-friendly

Listing the elements of a world-class factory



ALL INDICATORS of excellence in factory operations can be conveniently grouped into five: defect-free, fast, flexible, lean and environment-friendly.

Good manufacturing practices

Physical factory

Star No. 1: Defect-free

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Sub-editor Lita B. Zulueta, son of Feliciano Bravante Zulueta
Linda B. Bolido daughter of Adoracion Borgas Bolido

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso, daughter of Juvenda Rojas Banal

Mothers of champions

Today being Mom's Day, we feature seven mothers of superjocks. Mostly benchwarmers themselves, they all have shown a keen interest in the games their children play. They've covered all the bases in bringing up their champs—fitness, faith, family values—and added that one thing moms are famous for: tenderness.

The greatest bout of her life



DIONISIA Pacquiao with son Manny

Dionisia Pacquiao, mother of world featherweight champion Manny, has learned to live with the hardships of single parenthood

By Angelito E. Zurita, son of Veronica V. Zurita

SHE was thrice abandoned by men she had loved: first, her father, then her first and second husbands. But there is no trace of regret or bitterness in her face. How can there be when you're the mother of the world's featherweight champion?

Dionisia Dapigran Pacquiao, 55, mother of Manny Pacquiao, says she has learned to live with the pain and hardships of being a single parent.

Her fervent desire to keep her children together gave her the courage to bury her heartache and face the future with strength, vigor and optimism.

All her children have their own families, except for Rogelio, 23, the youngest who has just finished college. Her toils and sacrifices to see them through seem to have paid off so far.

Nowadays, she stays home and spends most of her time enjoying the videoke or watching television. All her needs are being provided for by Manny, who is scheduled to face against WBA and IBF featherweight champion Juan Marquez of Mexico today.

Broken family

Dionisia herself comes from a broken family. Her mother, Cristina Mejia Dapigran, 82, was abandoned with Dionisia, the third of nine children, taking care of her to this day.

The kids were still young when their father abandoned them, so Cristina worked hard to provide for their basic needs. It was from her mother that Dionisia learned the virtues of fortitude, patience, humility and hard work.

Dionisia's first husband, Alfonso [illegible], left her for another woman while she was two months pregnant with her second child, Domingo. She was then living with her mother in Barangay Tango, Glan town in Sarangani Province. To this day Dionisia says Domingo, now 33, has no idea what his father looks like.

To support her children, Dionisia baked doughnuts and other native delicacies and sold them in the neighborhood.

After about four years, Dionisia decided to marry again. She wanted more children, so she married Rosalio Pacquiao in 1975. From Glan, the family moved to Barangay Labangal in General Santos City.

Rosalio worked as a laborer at the city public market while Dionisia took care of the children and the home. After 17 years of togetherness, her husband went to Tampakan town in South Cotabato province to tend to a farm. Dionisia was later shocked to learn that her husband was living with another woman. She said it was the most painful and unbearable part of her life.

Despite the bitter turns of her married life, Dionisia was protective of her husband's image. She believed that anything bad she would say about Rosalio would ultimately affect their children.

"Let the past remain deeply buried in my heart. Anyway if not for our marriage, there would have been no Manny Pacquiao. I wanted my children to remain proud of their father," she says in the vernacular.

To survive, Dionisia worked in a factory and sold kakanin in the neighborhood. Manny, then a 16-year-old amateur boxer, went to Manila to hone his boxing skills.

She recalled how Manny helped each member by regularly sending money. Her two other sons, Bobby, now also a professional boxer, and Rogelio, used to sell cellophane bags at the public market to augment her meager income.

THE GREATEST/F2

From Ma's lap to champ's pool

Malou Dacanay is bemedalled swimmer Luica's model of hard work and independence


FOR LUICA, mom Malou is not only a friend but a key pillar in her life as well.

WITH MORE than 30 gold medals and so many other awards under her belt, swimmer Luica Dacanay has undoubtedly arrived. But it has not been a solo effort for one of the country's young star athletes. She has always counted on the love and support of her mother, Malou.

Accomplished kids

Supportive parents

Go-kart's go-go mom

Glenna Feman Guidicelli is on the right track raising champion child racer Matteo

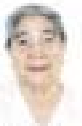

MOM Glenna with Matteo: "I only support him as a mother."

"YOU'RE still my baby," Glenna Feman Guidicelli is bantering with her son Matteo during breakfast in Island Café at the Makati Shangri-La. "Aren't you still my baby?"

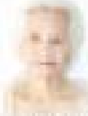
Exhilaration

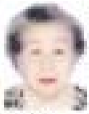
Guidance

2004 Ulirang Ina awardees named









The greatest bout of her life

Good role model

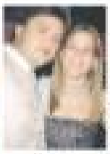

WONDERFUL FRIENDS Frances Lim, Miss Monsieur winner Tina Paminiuan and Jessie Sincioco of Le Souffle


SALA co-owner Colin Mackay with his counterpart and couture designer Rajo Ramirez


STYLISH chicks Malu Gamboa, Jenni Epperson and Loca Carpo


MAKE-UP girl Lala Flores between hot couple Rocker and Cheryll Angeles


TATLER bob Irene Francisco with Madame Imelda Marcos


MISS Monsieur judge Edouard Mulller with his pretty wife Sandra

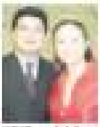
Beauty connoisseurship becomes me

Tessa!

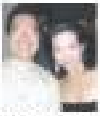


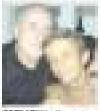
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

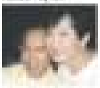
Judging beauty contests is a beautiful thing. With boa feathers, you get to upstage the contestants themselves.


NEWS couple Jaime Rubio and Pinky Benedo


CEBU royals Michel and Amparito Lhuillier of Chateau des Barbanson

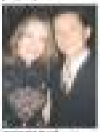

FUN couple Francis Lumen and wife Maryanne, Miss Monsieur judge


FRENCH judges at Miss Monsieur, Philippe Gauthier and Ambassador Renee Veyret


EMPHASIS boss Tony Bernal and talented designer Pancy Serrano


ELEGANT guests at the Tatler fashion show, Bea Alessandri and Franny Jaime


RUNWAY production big guy Joey Espino


GORGEOUS pair Kenny and Fred Uytengsu

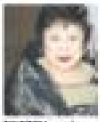
THE PHILIPPINES will never run short of certain events, like beauty pageants or fashion shows. No matter how bad the economic or political situation gets, there will always be basketball games for the men and beauty pageants... still for the men!

[illegible]

True queens

[illegible]

E-mail me at [illegible]


SWATCH guest diva and birthday girl Virgie Ramos

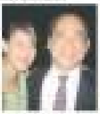

BEAUTIES all in a row, Sheila Alonzo, Jasmin Chua, winner Tamara Maria Salpado, first runner-up Noelle Carcelli and Kristine Anne Campos


PHILIPPINE Tatler editor Anton San Diego with the Ramos's family


CELEBRITY TAPING, Tess Prieto between Pepe Fernandez and Michael V.


GENEROUS Pen-ex president Khalid Al-Fadlalgh gets first runner-up Maite Tanpco, ticket to Cannes, France together with winner Tina Paminiuan.


CEOs Bi-Bi and Raymond Isaac


MISS Earth couple hosts, Lorraine Schuck and Ramon Monsanto


CUTE Swatch boss Yannick Jozet with sparkle me


MANILA Fashion Week top designers on parade


DRAMATIC Inno in rehearsal, Raoul Ramirez at Fashion Week


ASIA'S top designers at KL Fashion Week. That's Rajo Laurel with Barney Cheng of Hong Kong


AFRICAN tones by Rajo Laurel at KL Fashion Week


MAGNIFICENT Tina Ertle standing behind judges Jennifer Southern and Dennis Valdes

BADMINTON and motocross whiz kids, and the moms who love them /C6

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Mom's gentle putting raises a champ

No stage mother, Lorna Lopez Tabuena dotes on junior golf wonder Miguel without spoiling him





MOM'S CLUB. [illegible]

HOW does she feel about being mom to a champion golfer?

[illegible]

Strong force

[illegible]

Strict but funny

[illegible]

The mother of all cheering squads

Rita Asuncion does not play badminton, but she's a real winner with her champion kids Kennie and Kennevic



Light of a young biker

Though she worries about her son's safety, Beng San Andres knows Kenneth was born to race





Sunday LifeStyle

Fashion's centrifugal forces

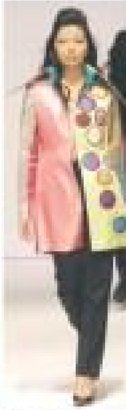
A number of designers from Cebu, Davao and Iloilo show they have what it takes to stand side by side with their Manila counterparts

SOME of the biggest names in fashion design in Cebu, Davao and Iloilo presented their collections at the recent Philippine Fashion Week at the Glorietta Activity Center.

[illegible]



KATE Torralba







KATE Torralba

Fashion's centrifugal forces











